



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR


STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

April 23, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for the Qualitative Compliance Information Grant under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), in Michigan commonly referred to as *Early On*<sup>®</sup>, provides assistance to states for the development of an interagency system of early intervention services to children from birth to three years of age with disabilities or developmental delays and their families.

IDEA statute and regulations require an annual report on the status of the *Early On* program performance. This report must include qualitative data on the program's actual accomplishments during the reporting period as compared to federally established objectives (IDEA Title 1, Part B, 616(b), 34 CFR §§ 303.700(c) and 303.703(b)). IDEA statute and Part C regulations (§ 303.700(a)(4)) require the Governor-appointed Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC, as required under IDEA Title 1, Part C, 641) to review and submit this annual report to the Governor and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

The Qualitative Compliance Information Grant supports the coordination and collection of these qualitative data from intermediate school districts, which are responsible for *Early On* implementation.

The 2012 federal allocation to Michigan for Part C is anticipated to be at least \$11,852,205. The application submitted to OSEP for the 2012 funds recommended that up to \$340,082 be designated for a competitive grant to be awarded for the qualitative compliance information activities for *Early On*.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the Qualitative Compliance Information Grant under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated April 23, 2012.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT  
NANCY DANHOF – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER  
RICHARD ZEILE – NASBE DELEGATE • KATHLEEN N. STRAUS  
DANIEL VARNER • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Qualitative Compliance Information Grant under Part C of the  
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The State Board of Education has adopted as its goal "Significant and meaningful improvement in the academic performance of all students/children with major emphasis on the persistently lowest achieving schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal, and the Board's Vision and Principles of Universal Education.

**PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA  
SUPPORT**

The criteria for the Qualitative Compliance Information Grant under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) support the Board's goal of achievement for all children by providing the data necessary to both ensure continued federal funding and improve outcomes for children and families. Further, all activities of the *Early On* system address the tenets of universal education and promote early childhood literacy and school/community relationships.

**BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT**

☒ Competitive      ☐ Formula      ☐ New      ☐ Continuation

The Qualitative Compliance Information Grant will annually collect and analyze information and performance data necessary for reporting on early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. Data collected and analyzed by a grantee will provide direction and improvement targets for the early intervention system (known in Michigan as *Early On*<sup>®</sup>).

**CRITERIA**

Date criteria were last approved: May 13, 2008.

☒ Defined in Statute      ☒ Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder      ☐ Proposed by Staff

An applicant must:

- demonstrate capacity to assess the impact of Part C/*Early On* for families through the use of family-centered surveys,
- demonstrate capacity to assess the level of implementation of *Early On* local service areas,
- demonstrate the ability to collect data consistently and to make comparisons over time,
- demonstrate the ability to support the Michigan Department of Education in the continuous improvement and focused monitoring process, and
- demonstrate extensive experience with Part C of IDEA legislation.

## **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT**

Eligible applicants include local and intermediate school districts, human service agencies, public or private organizations and agencies, advocacy organizations, institutions of higher learning, and others with appropriate expertise and experience.

## **TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

Up to \$340,082 per year are available in federal funds under IDEA. This is a multi-year project with annual renewal contingent upon need, performance, and availability of funds.

## **STATUTE**

The governing legislation is Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Education General Administrative Rules, specifically 34 CFR 76.720, 80.40, 303.501, 20 U.S.C. 1441 (e)(1)(D), and 34 CFR 303.654; and the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Education and Family Services' State Plan for Part C.

## **OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT**

Office of Great Start/Early Childhood Education and Family Services

Director:	Lindy Buch, Ph.D.	241-3592
Program Contacts:	Reneé DeMars-Johnson, Supervisor	241-0162
	Vanessa Winborne, Coordinator	335-4865